

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A power cord plug securing device, comprising:
  - an essentially inflexible clasp block member for removably and securely retaining a power cord therein, said clasp block member comprising a trough region disposed approximately centrally therethrough, said trough region disposed along a first axis of orientation corresponding with an axis of the power cord;
    - said trough region comprising a truncated cylindrical bottom portion and approximately vertically disposed retaining walls thereabove, said clasp block member further comprising an open region disposed approximately opposite said cylindrical bottom portion and centrally between said retaining walls, said open region forming an elongated channel to allow the power cord to traverse into and be captured within said cylindrical bottom portion;
    - a securing strap extending proximate from a base region of said clasp block member underlying said trough region and disposed along an axis of orientation parallel to said first axis of orientation, said securing strap oriented for underlying the power cord plug when in use; and,
    - a throughhole formed through said securing strap, said throughhole adapted to receive an electrical outlet cover plate screw for removable attachment of said device to an electrical outlet cover plate, thereby maintaining electrical engagement of electrical conductors of a plug head of the power cord with an electrical outlet.

2. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein said clasp block member is adapted to removably engage and securely retain a portion of the power cord immediately aft of the plug head when attached thereto.
3. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 2, wherein said clasp block member is substantially U-shaped.
4. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 2, wherein said retaining walls terminate in inwardly projecting ends for securely maintaining the portion of the power cord immediately aft of the plug head within said trough region.
5. (Original) The device of Claim 4, wherein at least one of said trough region and said retaining walls are at least partially textured or ribbed for increased frictional association with the portion of the power cord retained therein.
6. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein a first end of said securing strap is integrally formed with said clasp member.
7. (Original) The device of Claim 6, wherein a second end of said securing strap is integrally formed with the electrical outlet cover plate.
8. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein said throughhole is opposingly positioned from said clasp member on said securing strap.

9. (Original) The device of Claim 1, further comprising a plurality of throughholes formed through said securing strap for purposes of selectively determining site of engagement of the screw therewith, and, thus, the site of engagement of said clasp member on the power cord.

10. (Currently Amended) A power cord plug securing device, comprising:

a first essentially inflexible clasp block member for removably and securely retaining a first power cord therein, said first clasp block member comprising a trough region disposed approximately centrally therethrough, said trough region disposed along a first axis of orientation corresponding with an axis of the first power cord;

a second essentially inflexible clasp block member for removably and securely retaining a second power cord therein, said second clasp block member comprising a trough region disposed approximately centrally therethrough, said trough region of said second clasp block member disposed along an axis of orientation parallel to said first axis of orientation;

each of said trough regions comprising a truncated cylindrical bottom portion and approximately vertically disposed retaining walls thereabove, each of said clasp block members further comprising an open region disposed approximately opposite said cylindrical bottom portion and centrally between said retaining walls, , said open region forming an elongated channel to allow a power cord to traverse into and be captured within said cylindrical bottom portion; and,

a securing strap extending between a base region underlying said trough region of said first clasp block member and a base region underlying said trough region of said second clasp block member, wherein said securing strap is disposed along an axis of orientation parallel to said first axis of orientation, said securing strap oriented for underlying the power cord plugs when in use.

11. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 10, wherein said plug securing device is adapted to maintain the first power cord in electrical engagement with the second power cord.

12. (Original) The device of Claim 10, further comprising a throughhole formed through said securing strap, said throughhole adapted to receive an electrical outlet cover plate screw for removable attachment of said device to an electrical outlet cover plate.

13. (Original) The device of Claim 12, wherein at least one of said first and second clasp members is adapted to maintain electrical engagement of a plug head of at least one of the first and second power cords with an electrical outlet.

14. (Original) The device of Claim 10, wherein said first clasp member is adapted to removably engage and securely retain a portion of the first power cord immediately aft of a plug head attached thereto, and wherein said second clasp member is adapted to removably engage and securely retain a portion of the second power cord immediately aft of a plug head attached thereto.

15. (Original) The device of Claim 14, wherein said first and second clasp members are substantially U-shaped.

16. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 14, wherein said retaining walls terminate in inwardly projecting ends for securely maintaining the portions of the respective first and second power cords immediately aft of the plug heads within each said trough region.

17. (Original) The device of Claim 16, wherein at least one of said trough regions and said retaining walls are at least partially textured or ribbed for increased frictional association with the portions of the respective first and second power cords retained therein.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining electrical continuity between at least a first and second current carrying member, said method comprising the steps of:

- a. obtaining a device having an essentially inflexible clasp block member for removably and securely retaining the first current carrying member therein, said clasp block member comprising a trough region disposed approximately centrally therethrough, said trough region disposed along a first axis of orientation corresponding with an axis of the first current carrying member, said trough region comprising a truncated cylindrical bottom portion and approximately vertically disposed retaining walls thereabove, said clasp block member further comprising an open region disposed approximately opposite said cylindrical bottom portion and centrally between said retaining walls, said open region forming an elongated channel

to allow a current carrying member to traverse into and be captured within said cylindrical bottom portion, wherein said clasp block member comprises a securing strap extending proximate from a base region of said clasp block member underlying said trough region and disposed along an axis of orientation parallel to said first axis of orientation, said securing strap oriented for underlying a plug of the current carrying member when in use;

b. securing within said clasp block member a portion of the first current carrying member; and,

c. securing the first current carrying member to the second current carrying member via a means for securing carried by said securing strap.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 18, wherein the first current carrying member is a first cord-type current carrying member, and wherein the second current carrying member is selected from the group consisting of a second cord-type current carrying member, and an electrical outlet.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said securing means is a throughhole formed through said securing strap, said throughhole adapted to receive an electrical outlet cover plate screw for removable attachment of said device to an electrical outlet cover plate for maintaining the first cord-type current carrying member in electrical continuity with the electrical outlet.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said securing means is a second clasp member carried by said securing strap, said second clasp member adapted to removably and securably engage a portion of the second cord-type current carrying member.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 21, wherein said device is adapted to maintain electrical engagement between the first cord-type current carrying member and the second cord-type current carrying member.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein said securing strap further comprises a throughhole formed therethrough, said throughhole adapted to receive an electrical outlet cover plate screw for removable attachment of said device to an electrical outlet cover plate for maintaining a first cord-type current carrying member and a second cord-type current carrying member in electrical continuity with an electrical outlet.